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CADILLAC CARS
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VOL. II NO. 90

The Hongkong Telegraph

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1947.

Price 20 Cents

BEVIN WANTS A FIRM SOLID TREATY

6,000 FLEE FROM VOLCANO

Manila, Jan. 15. Six thousand Southern Luzon residents crowded into evacuation centres after fleeing the vicinity of the violently erupting Mayon volcano.

Every three hours the volcano spouts fiery lava and boulders. Volcanic clouds rise to 10,000 feet above the peak.

The Weather Bureau observer in Legazpi said that the eruptions are getting worse. So far no villages have been reached by lava, but the residents were ordered out as a precaution. —Associated Press.

SALE OF PALACE HOTEL

Price Said To Be HK\$5,500,000

The Hongkong Telegraph learns that negotiations have been completed for the sale of the Palace Hotel property in Shanghai belonging to the Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd.

The sale price is understood to be \$5,500,000 (HK), and the buyers are the Dih Ching Co. of Shanghai, a private Chinese business concern which operates several cotton mills and also owns the Ciro property on Bubbling Well Road.

Situated at the corner of the Bund and Nanking Road, opposite Sauson House and the Cathay Hotel, the Palace Hotel has been run by the Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd. for many years. Its present manager is Mr. L. Gaddi, who was manager of the Hongkong Hotel during the BMA period here.

FUTURE PLANS

The buyers, it is learned, intend to redevelop the property by erecting an 18-story bank and office building on the site. The architectural work will be in the hands of Mr. E. B. Cumming, A.R.I.B.A.

Interviewed this morning, an official of the Hotel Co. neither confirmed nor denied the report of the sale, remarking: "I cannot say anything at present."

Big Four Preparing German Peace Terms

London, Jan. 15.

Britain's Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, called yesterday for a German peace treaty "so firm, so solid, so conceived that it will save the world for hundreds of years from . . . the travail and turmoil of another war."

His short address reported by the British Foreign Office was made before the first closed meeting of the Big Four Deputy Foreign Ministers, convening to begin the preliminaries of drafting peace treaties for Austria and Germany.

"I am deeply and sincerely concerned," Mr. Bevin said, "that nothing should be done which would enable Germany to become a military power again."

Mr. Bevin said the Austrian peace treaty should not handicap Austria economically and added: "Austria was left in 1919 like a tadpole with Vienna her great head and with very little tail. If the Danube countries could co-operate economically, that State would be avoided."

He urged "effective" preparatory work on the German treaty, saying, "There is a great desire to work with a plan" that would prevent war for many centuries.

HOLLAND'S DEMAND

Little Holland, one of the first western nations overrun by warring Nazis, demanded a stern peace for Germany and a "moral reconstruction" of her people.

The Netherlands, in a memorandum to the Deputy Council, asked that the Germans be made to pay the full cost of occupation and reconstruction, and urged strictest measures to ensure Germany's demilitarisation and disarmament.

The document called for a decentralised Germany and an international "regime" to control industries in the Ruhr and Rhineland, cent of Germany's war potential.

The Deputies met in their first closed session at 11 p.m. Hongkong time yesterday with Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin planning a short welcoming address. British and American sources said the meeting would be taken entirely with discussions of procedural matters.

Mr. Robert Murphy, Secretary of State George C. Marshall's deputy for Germany, planned separate contacts after yesterday with his Russian and French opposite numbers. Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Gusev and Maurice Couve de Murville.

An American official said they were expected to be "courtesy talk."

Murphy conferred on Monday with the British Deputy for Germany, Sir William Strang. —Associated Press.

AUSTRIAN TREATY

Leeds, Jan. 14.

The diplomatic correspondent of the leading North England Conservative news paper Yorkshire Post wrote today that while no details of the British draft treaty for Austria have been published—the British draft is understood to contain the following "nine points":

1. A free and independent Austria.

2. The withdrawal of all Allied troops from Austria.

3. Freedom of navigation on the Danube.

4. Support for Austria in joining the United Nations Organisation.

5. Austria's frontiers to be those of 1938—that is before the anschluss with Germany.

6. Non-recognition of Yugoslav and Czech territorial claims on Austria.

7. No reparations.

8. Complete religious freedom and non-discrimination in trade.

9. Agreement on German assets in Austria to be based mainly on recognition as German property of plants erected after 1938 (date of anschluss) only.

The United States draft is on similar lines and France, it is believed, supports the main outlines of the British draft, the correspondent said.

He added: "Britain and the United States are also expected to urge that Austria should be allowed to maintain her own security forces to protect her frontiers." —Reuter.

TREMENDOUS—IF TRUE

Washington, Jan. 14.

Reports published in Britain and the United States from Berlin sources that Russia is prepared to renounce all claims to reparations from the current production in Germany were described to-day by United States State Department official as "Tremendous news if it is true."

It was added that the State Department could not give any confirmation of the reports, which were attributed to "topflight" Russians interviewed in Berlin.

The reports said that the Russians at the Moscow conference of Foreign Ministers in March on the peace settlement with Germany and Austria, will throw their full weight behind the plan for an economic as well as a political unity of Germany.

To secure the success of the plan, the Russians will renounce all claims to reparations from the current production both in their own occupation zone and in the Allied zones, the reports add. —Reuter.

Spirit of Hitler

The former Finance Minister, M.

Robert Schuman (MRP), got 101

votes and the Left Republican Union, M. Claudius Pettit, 75.

The National Assembly and the Council of the Republic also elected other officials.

For the Assembly: Vice-president, Jacques Duclou (Communist), Madame Germaine Peignot (MRP), Mme Madeleine Braun (Communist), Fernand Bouchez (MRP), Yvon Delo (Radical Socialist) and Jules Rambonny (PRL).

Council of the Republic: Vice-president, Georges Marrane (Communist), Mme Gilberte Brossolette (Socialist), Gaston Monzerville (Left Republican Union).

Spirit of Hitler

The Communist deputy, Marcel Cachin, opening the French National Assembly, warned that in Germany the "spirit of Hitler" is still widespread.

Taking a firm anti-German stand, Cachin said 18 months after the war, "the German population is increasing and three-quarters of their industry is intact."

He said German chemical and metallurgical industries were "ready to operate" and in Germany one sees no signs of repentance or regret."

"It is in these conditions that unification of the British and American zones in Germany is announced and it is revealed that important credits are to be given Germany to enable the Germans to reconstitute their economic power within three years. The French people cannot but note that this is a renewal of the errors of 1919." —United Press.

COMING TO H.K.

London, Jan. 14.

Mr. Geoffrey de Freitas, Under-Secretary of State for Air, leaves England to-morrow in a Lancastrian of the RAF Transport Command for a 24,000 mile tour of overseas commands of the Royal Air Force in Greece, the Middle East, India, Malaya, China, Japan, Korea and Rhodesia.

He will return early in March. —Reuter.

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1947 Derby Winner



Norse Queen, winner of the Hongkong Derby at Happy Valley yesterday, being led in after its popular success by the owner, Mr. R. Johannessen, and Mrs. Johannessen. Norse Queen was piloted to victory by Ostramoff. (Photo Ming Yuen).

Entombed Miners Found Dead

Edinburgh, Jan. 14.

All thirteen men entombed behind a wall of rock and flame after an explosion in a shale oil pit at West Calder, Midlothian, on Friday were found dead when rescue squads reached them to-day.

The fires started afterwards may burn for years and the portion of the pit affected may be sealed off. —Reuter.

PALESTINE ARABS WILL RESIST PARTITION PLAN

Jerusalem, Jan. 14. Palestine Arabs would resolutely oppose partition in any form as a solution of the Palestine problem, according to a Palestine Arab Higher Committee statement to-day.

The statement said that British press reports gave the impression that the partition was being seriously considered in the British Government. "These reports are part of a propaganda campaign to give the partition a favourable reception," it added.

The statement also announced the committee's decision to ask the Palestine Government to approve the principle of elections to the Supreme Moslem Council—a body set up by the British Government to deal with Palestine Moslem affairs.

If the Palestine Government agrees to this the Higher Committee re-

French Find 50 Japanese Bodies Among Slain Viet Namhese

From Doon Campbell

Hanoi, Jan. 14. The bodies of 50 Japanese killed while aiding the Viet Namhese forces against French troops have been found since the hostilities started in December, the French military headquarters announced to-day.

The announcement reiterated the French allegations that the Japanese are giving "considerable assistance" to Viet Namhese forces.

The Japanese whose bodies have been found are reported to include a number holding military command. The Japanese are reported to be acting chiefly as military instructors and gunners.

The French military authorities are now carrying out a close checkup of all Japanese in Hanoi and special identity cards are being issued.

BIG TROOP MOVEMENTS

From Langson in the north Viet Namhese were reported to be moving up heavy reinforcements and large-scale Viet Namhese troop movements were also believed to be going on around Nam Dinh.

French troops have to-day been engaged in combined operations against the Viet Namhese forces who are still hanging on in the western suburbs of Hanoi. The French attack, which began at dawn, was carried out by mechanised forces

and aircraft from the air. To-night, semi-official reports say that despite

the French attack the sector is still in the control of Viet Namhese forces.

The Viet Namhese to-night reported that French troops from Tourane, about 350 miles south of Hanoi, had launched an attack on the Viet Namhese forces between Tourane and Huc, 40 miles north.

HUE ISOLATED

The French military authorities in Hanoi have not issued any communiqué on the operation, which would appear to be a French attempt to establish road contact between Tourane and Hue. Contact has been lost since the beginning of the fighting.

Hue, capital of Annam, is completely isolated as the result of the breakdown in road communications. The French aerodrome there has also been damaged. The French garrison at Hue has been harassed by Viet Namhese forces for several weeks and urgently needs rations and other supplies from Tourane as well as reinforcements.

Meanwhile, the only serviceable cinema house in Hanoi was open to the public again to-day, but because of the French military curfew performances were limited to the daytime. All cafés, cabarets, dance halls and other such establishments have been closed down "because of state of siege." The sale of liquor for consumption on the spot is forbidden and punishable by law. —Reuter.

FRENCH LANDINGS

Paris, Jan. 15. Viet Namhese reports from Indo-China said last night that French troops had landed at Tourane half way down Indo-China's eastern coastline and were fighting northward along the highway in an effort to relieve the siege of the French garrison at Hue.

Hue, about 400 miles south of the main centre of fighting at Hanoi, has been besieged by the Viet Namhese for the last three weeks. It is 60 miles by road from Tourane.

French sources did not comment on the report. It was broadcast over the clandestine Viet Namhese radio and distributed in Paris by the semi-official French Press Agency in a dispatch from Hanoi.

Bizarre news aspects of the fighting at Hanoi were reported by Associated Press correspondent Leo Erickson, who disclosed the existence of a fanatical Viet Namhese militaristic youth organisation called the "Tu Vu."

One thousand "Tu Vu" troops, surrounded by the French in Hanoi in a sector also jammed with 10,000 Chinese civilians and 5,000 Annamites, have been trying to fight their way out, Erickson reported. French forces repulsed several "Tu Vu" attacks.

(Continued on Page 4)

Twelve Nations Cry Out For Food Relief

Lake Success, Jan. 15. Twelve war damaged countries were reported to have informed the United Nations that they will need close to \$1,000,000,000 in emergency food relief during 1947. The requests were submitted to the Committee of United Nations experts last week, but not yet

The countries included the Philippines, Korea, Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Greece, China, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Finland and Ethiopia.

Under a plan approved at the last session of the General Assembly, these requests will be forwarded to individual members of the United Nations for voluntary action. Some countries, including the United States, have indicated they are prepared to continue individually the re-

lief job remaining after the expiration of UNRRA. It had not been expected, however, that the requests would be so large.

In Washington, Chairman Vandenberg of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said that the Committee undoubtedly will consider legislation for relief work in war-torn countries to supplement former UNRRA assistance. He said that the sum of \$400,000,000 for such relief had been under discussion. —Associated Press.

CREDITS FOR ITALY

Premier's Success In America

Washington, Jan. 15.

The United States gave Italian Premier Sig. Alcide de Gasperi full-scale assurances of \$100,000,000 in credits for his country as he prepared to return to Rome.

Less than three hours before the Premier was scheduled to board the plane, the Export Import Bank announced that it had decided to "rearmark" that sum to help "specific interests of Italian industry."

The Bank told the Italian Foreign Trade Minister, Sig. Pietro Campilli, however, that extension of a series of "individual credits" to Italian industry depends "upon conditions in Italy of stability and upon the ability to provide for the maintenance of its economy."

Officials saw in this statement an implied warning to the U.S. that political disturbances may force the Bank to change its mind. —Associated Press.

He will return early in March. —Reuter.

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POWELL'S OPINION

J. B. Powell, publisher and editor of the China Weekly Review in Shanghai, in an article written here for his magazine, said "many thoughtful observers of the Tokyo scene are convinced that the success or failure of the American programme in accomplishing its objective—a democratic Japan—depends to a larger extent on the future course of the Japanese labour movement."

Some say the future of the Allied occupation of Japan is wrapped up in the country's labour programme.

COMING TO H.K.

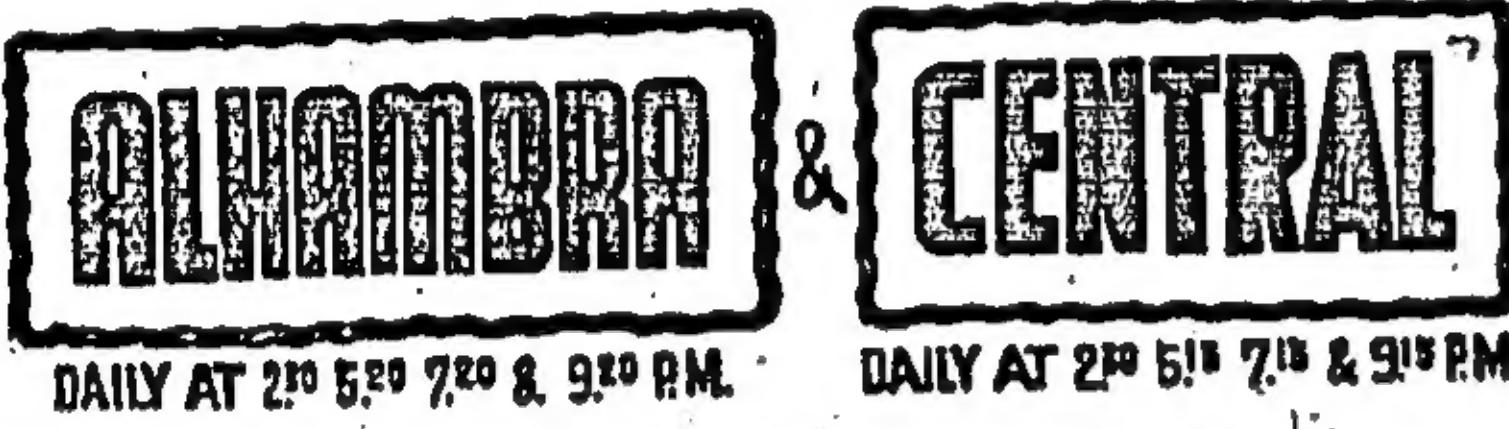
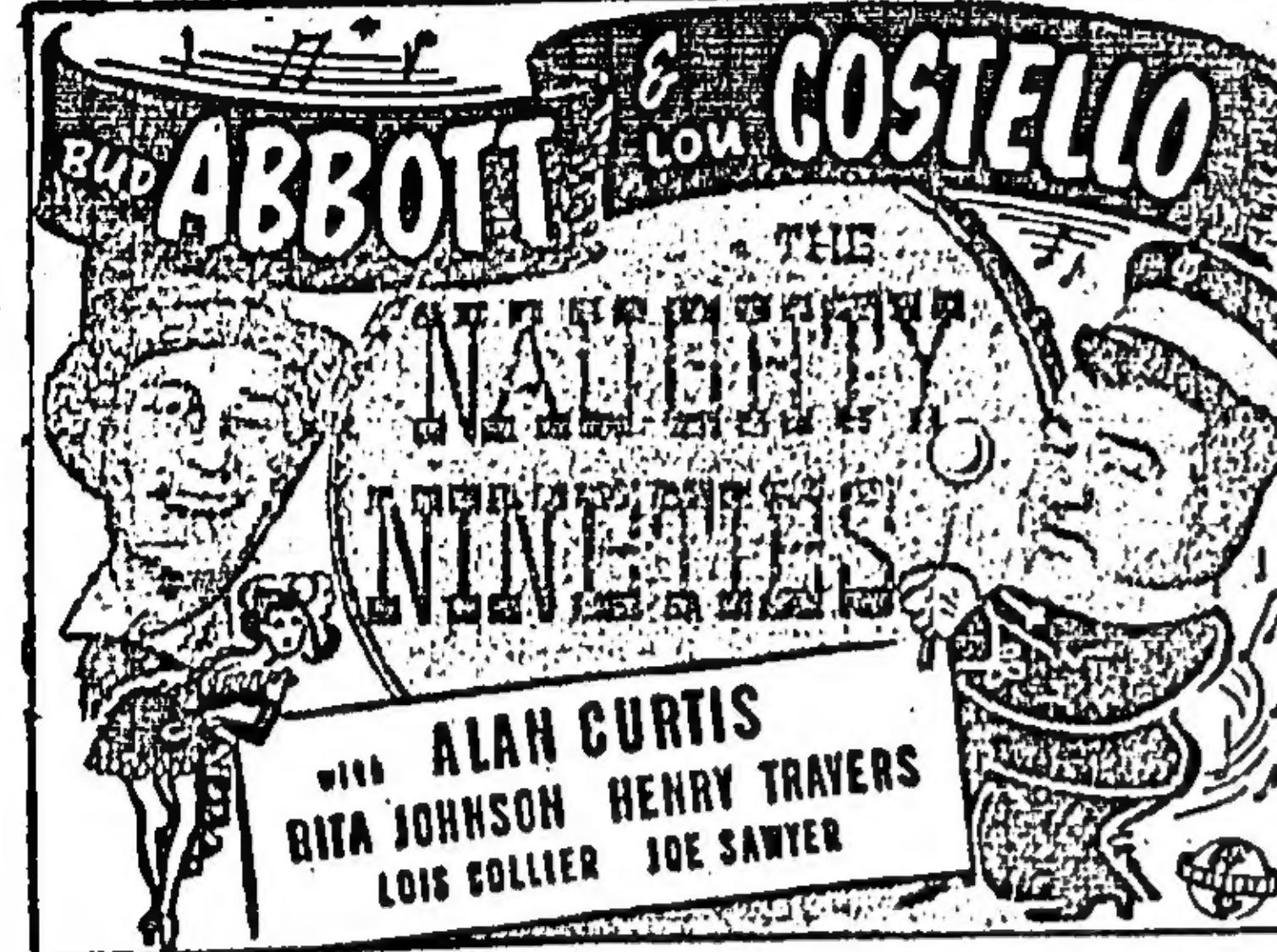
London, Jan. 14.

SHOWING
TO-DAY

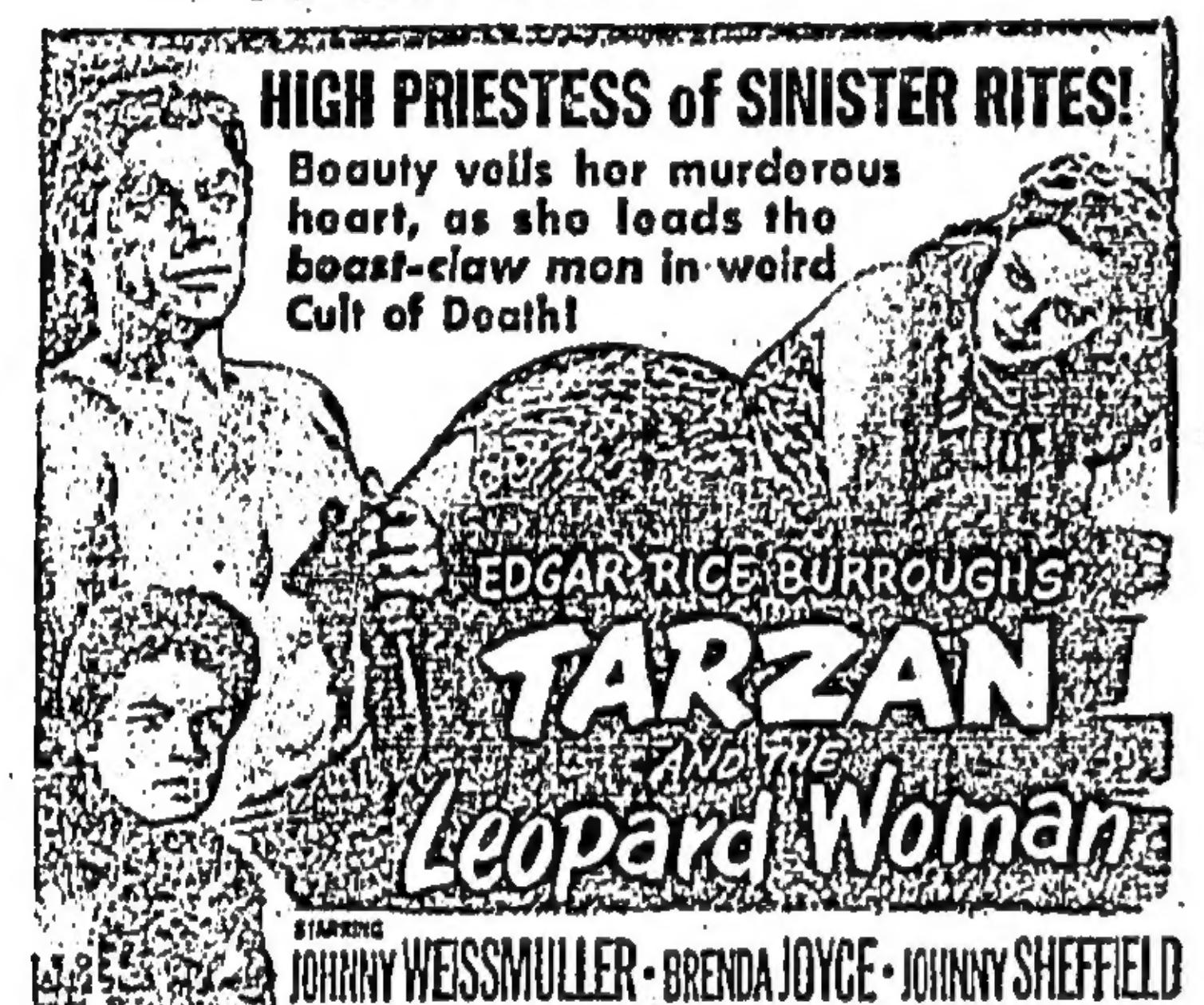
QUEENS

At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

NEXT CHANGE



TO-DAY & TO-MORROW



NEXT CHANGE

at the ALHAMBRA

at the CENTRAL

"ICE-CAPADES"

"SUBMARINE RAIDER"

with James ELLISON

with John HOWARD



COMBINED SERVICES ENTERTAINMENT

Presents:

BLANCHE LITTNER'S
ALL • STAR • COMPANY

IN

THE SPARKLING COMEDY
"MADAME LOUISE"

By

VERNON SYLVAIN

DIRECT FROM ITS PHENOMENAL RUN
AT THE GARRICK THEATRE

NIGHTLY AT 7.30 P.M.

BOOKING HOURS: 12 p.m.—2 p.m. 4 p.m.—6.30 p.m.
TELEPHONE: 58335.SERVICES: \$2.50, \$1.50, 80c.
CIVILIANS: \$3.00, \$1.90, \$1.00 (Including Tax).

SHOWING

MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20 p.m.THE GLORIOUS ROMANCE OF THE SHOW WORLD!
19 GREAT SONGS!

JUDY GARLAND in

"FOR ME AND MY GAL"

with GEORGE MURPHY • GENE KELLY

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

NEXT CHANGE:
"BILLY THE KID"
In Technicolor!

Dine At

The Cock & Pullet Restaurant

7-9 DUDDELL STREET

(Side of Bank of China)

RESERVATIONS TEL 28252.

POCKET CARTOON



WILLIAM HICKEY

PICKING A HUSBAND

MATRONLY advice on picking a husband by Mrs JOHN AGAR.

"Sincerity comes first... Pick a man who looks straight at you; not one who looks at the floor when he talks... Pick a man who has the will to work. Looks do not matter... If a girl's family has money, let her be sure he is not marrying her for that."

She is SHIRLEY TEMPLE to you and 12 months married.

BABIES and the very young in the children's wards of ten London hospitals were perky and cheerful on Christmas Day in new woolly bed-jackets.

It was the twentieth year it had happened. In which time Mrs ERNEST WARD has given away more than 33,000 bed-jackets. Even this time, constrained as she has been by coupons and wool scarcity, she had 603 to give away.

Each year she has made 100 of these coats, which works out by my reckoning at one every three and a half days all the year round. And they are beautifully made.

Three years running, "helped by friends I know and more I have never met, who live everywhere from the Shetlands to Singapore," she had 5,000 jackets to give away at Christmas. Boxes at her arm, she used to go to 56 London hospitals; has wartime-cut to ten.

It all began when her daughter was a V.A.D. at University College Hospital. Prince George was coming, and the young nurse did want the children to look nice. So Mrs Ward said she would knit the 30 bed-jackets which started an obsession which has given me infinite pleasure."

And others.

ENJOYING a seasonable boom is a profitable racket-in-lunch-and-dinner bills from London's swank spots.

Waiters usually take the bill away when you have paid, and these are saleable "round the corner" to people with parsimonious habits but large expense accounts for hospitality. Prices are rising; currently up to 12s. 6d. is offered for a £4 bill.

Nothing is sacred to me!

BECAUSE a British heart still beats in an American breast, which is left of a very fine cake topped by a sugar-icing Meteor, is in the mess of No. 222 Fighter Squadron at Tangmere.

Tousled-haired JOHN LOCK, cherubic chief purser of the new liner America, was ill in New York and could not make her maiden voyage.

This good American citizen has sailed in American ships for 35 years. But when he heard that an RAF fighter squadron had dipped in salute to the flagship of his line—as she came up Southampton Water for the first time, then the British sentimental bit of him, born in Winchester, England, won out.

By the time the liner docked on the second trip, John Lock, well again, had fixed a squadron party, and produced the cake that mother tried to make. And it was decorated with the not very American expression "Good luck, chaps."

FROM a London evening: "Heir to the barony" is his eldest son, the Hon. GERALD RICE, two-year-old officer in the Irish Guards.

Infantry?

Every Wednesday in the Telegraph:

Sitting on the Fence
by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

"WELL," said the Sweep, "I see little old Gandhi's off is feed again."

"Go on?" I said.

"According to the papers," said the Sweep, "he's goin' on a fast if they don't stop the riots in India. Cor strike a light, what's the use of doin' that?"

"No idea," I said.

"Ere we ave' off the world ungrateful," said the Sweep, "and we've little old Gandhi sulkin' over us is dates because one lot of Indians is chuckin' bricks at another lot of Indians."

"That's right," I said.

"And I suppose if they cut up a bit too rough he won't drink is goin's milk neither."

"I suppose not."

"Cor gutterin' warn," said the Sweep, "it's like a little kid that don't win all the games at a party."

"It certainly is."

"All the same, you ave to remember he is age. There's lots of people git a bit childish when they ain't far off 80."

"They certainly do."

"Though, so far as I can remember," said the Sweep, "little old Gandhi was never properly growed up."

"Really?" I said.

"When he wasn't pushin' in plate away because they didn't eat. Once Rulio, he was playin' with a spinning wheel or cachin' is death of cold walkin' about in is under pants. So what can you do with a man like that?"

"Search me," I said.

"He must ave been a great trial in the ome," said the Sweep.

"He certainly must."

Hot Weather

"And now he's got what he wants and everybody thought he was goin' to be sappy and satisfied he's off on another unger strike."

"That's right."

"There's no pleasin' some people," said the Sweep.

"There ain't," I said.

"And as for them there little old Indians," said the Sweep, "all them under strikin' in the world won't make them love each other."

"It won't," I said.

"Religion again," said the Sweep.

"That's it," I said.

"And the ot weather, too," said the Sweep.

"Probably," I said.

"There's nothink like ot weather and a bit of an argument to git your dander up."

"Nothink."

"I reckon it's lucky they're all teetotalers," said the Sweep. "Cor luvduck, there won't art, be no trouble if they took a pint or two."

"Not art there wouldn't."

"An Irish pub on a Saturday night wouldn't be in it."

"No," I said.

"Match-point scoring."

North, dealer.

Neither side vulnerable.

Match-point scoring.

NORTH

♦ A J 4

♦ Q 7

♦ 2

♦ A 10 8 7 6 5 3

WEST

♦ K 9 8

♦ 10 7 3

♦ K 7 4

♦ J 8 6

♦ —

♦ K Q J 9 6

SOUTH

♦ Q 6 5 2

♦ 9 4

♦ A Q 10 9 8 3

♦ 2

This was the bidding at one table:

North East South West

Pass Double 1 diamond 1 heart

Pass Double 3 diamonds Pass

Both East and West bid the hand bodily. For one thing, East's double of three clubs was too good to be

an excellent match-point score.

Even after East's double of three clubs West did not have the material for a double of three diamonds; therefore, it was entirely logical to do a little more competing. In all probability East would not have bid again over three hearts, but neither would the opponents, and West didn't have to bid game to make an excellent match-point score.



By Ernie Bushmiller

Who have faithful brown eyes that are without guile that shine with love and devotion and seem to say "Ask me anything and I will give it, even life itself?"

Why, the doggies, of course.

And who among the doggies is the most faithful and devoted of all doggies?

Your Uncle Nat is no expert on doggies, but he always thought it was the St Bernard, the doggo that moans around the mountains with a flask of brandy round its neck.

Even he can like a doggo who does that.

But according to reports from Switzerland a number of St Bernards attacked two girls. One escaped, the other was badly bitten. Before the dogs could drag her away to their kennels monk beat them off with sticks.

No doubt the doggies were hungry (in foreign countries they don't overfeed doggies), and no doubt they regarded the girls as a bit of meat off the ration.

But are doggies no better than Englishmen when things are in short supply? Are they no better morally than the man who gets chumby with the butcher? Cannot one trust anybody, anything? Not even those faithful brown eyes?

Doggies, doggies, now could you?

Gubbins news service

DESPITE the report that Field-Marshal Ralph Johnson has resigned from the editorship of the American newspaper "The Star" because the proprietor thought that a few paid advertisements might help to pay wages, including the editor's, those in touch with inner military and diplomatic circles believe that the resignation is no more than a blind to cover an appointment of some importance which may affect the future of high military strategy.

Although it is realised that the Field-Marshal always objected to advertisements, it is also realised that nobody in his right mind could believe that a newspaper could be run without them. It is therefore believed that the military genius of the famous critic of Field-Marshal Montgomery will soon find his rightful place among the councils of the Anglo-American High Command.

Rupert and Ninky—15



Rupert sets Ninky on his feet again, and then he and his master look at him, wondering what he will do next. But the donkey doesn't move any more. He only stands gazing into the fire.

"It's a complete mystery," declares Mrs. Bear. "I finished making him less than half an hour ago and now he's moved as if he was alive." "I'll see what Bill thinks," says Rupert, "but I shall not wrap him up. I'll hold him tight under my arm." And, putting on his coat, he sets off.

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1—Lake in Sahara

2—Empty space

3—Over shoot

Germany May Get Back Agricultural Areas

During the coming peace talks on Germany the United States will propose that a large part of the former rich agricultural areas in the east, now occupied by Poland, should be returned to Germany, says Associated Press quoting reliable sources in Berlin.

The American contention will be that Germany cannot be self-sustaining with a loss of 25 per cent of her best agricultural land and that this loss will only provide a talking point for a new war.

United States proposals, which are expected to receive support from Britain, are that Poland should retain the former rich German industrial area of Silesia, the half of East Prussia they now occupy and the once free city of Danzig.

The agricultural areas of Pomerania and Brandenburg, now occupied by Polish troops, once again would become part of the postwar Germany, according to the present United States proposal as envisioned in Berlin. It is pointed out that Poland, a predominantly agricultural area, has enough farm lands for her own needs and Silesia would give her a rich industrial area.

At the same time, the loss of the Pomeranian and Brandenburg farm lands cut an estimated 25 per cent from Germany's food production.

Always a food deficit country, Germany is now worse off than ever before with the Western occupation powers in the position of having to make huge expenditures to import food for a defeated foe.

Robbed of War Potentials

The United States has recognized Polish territorial claims both at Yalta and Potsdam, but both times had made it clear, together with Britain and Russia, that final settlements could only be made at a peace conference on Germany and that present arrangements were provisional.

In presenting its position to the Big Four, the United States is expected to point out that by losing Silesia,

Britain's Birth Rate Rises

It is announced that 213,135 babies were born in Britain during the September quarter, representing an average of 19.7 per 1,000 total population. Of the number, 109,598 were boys and 103,537 girls.

This is the highest number recorded in any quarter since 1921. The average birth rate between 1938 and 1945 was around 15 per 1,000.

Infant mortality for the September quarter was 35 per 1,000 births, which is the lowest rate ever recorded in England and Wales, and is seven per 1,000 below the average rate for the 10 preceding years.

Total number of deaths during the same period was 100,363, while there were 109,047 marriages.

GOLD MINING STARTED IN SARAWAK

Gold-mining in Sarawak has been restarted, and small quantities of ore are being treated by the Krokong Gold Mining Co., Ltd., but shortage of cyanoide supplies is holding up production.

"The revival of the mining industry in Bau District," says the Sarawak Gazette, "still appears uncertain."

"The Krokong Gold Mining Co., Ltd., have however been persevering in their efforts to resume production, and are now treating small quantities of ore, although they are awaiting long-expected supplies of cyanoide to enable them to extract large amounts of gold."

"The Director of Lands and Survey has required all holders of extant mining leases to submit statements of particulars of work done."

DUMB-BELLS



HIGHLAND NEWSLETTER

(By A Special Correspondent)

There is bitter controversy in Inverness-shire over the question of requisitioning empty houses for the housing of families who have no adequate accommodation.

Of course, everyone agrees with the "principle" of requisitioning these empty houses but now that many large country houses and shooting lodges, which are unoccupied except for two or three months in the summer, are threatened the owners are raising a fierce outcry.

In the Badenoch district of Inverness-shire there are about 150 families in need of homes, many of them families of ex-Servicemen—yet although the County Housing Officer submitted a list of about 40 houses in the Badenoch district which he considered suitable for requisitioning, only 18 were taken over. Proprietors, some of them members of the County Council, protest that they are threatened with confiscation of their property.

Delaying Rule

They contend that they ought to be consulted in the first place and that the matter can very well be decided by the County Council—in which the land-owning interests are in the majority—and that there is no need to approach the Secretary of State for Scotland on the matter.

They want further inquiries to be made locally and they want full details as to the cost of converting the properties in question into suitable dwellings for the people.

The result was the almost complete wreckage of the inner city—the area inside the semi-circular "ring road" which starts and ends on the east bank of the Rhine. Scarcely a building—from the famous Cathedral to the tiny houses in the narrow alleys—escaped serious damage, says United Press.

In the city as a whole, 80 per cent of the buildings were damaged. Before the war, Cologne had a large tourist trade. To accommodate visitors, it had 7,000 hotel rooms. Only 100 are left. The largest hotel has 18 rooms intact.

TEN YEARS TO CLEAR COLOGNE

Ten years should be long enough to clear the rubble from Cologne, the first city to be rocked by a 1,000-plane air raid. When the rubble has been cleared, the skeleton walls of gutted buildings must come down. Then the real job of rebuilding can begin.

Cologne is as spectacular a ruin as any of the 50 first cities of Germany. It is more spectacular than most. In addition to damage from many air raids, the city suffered from heavy ground fighting in the outskirts.

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Reduction of Population

Cologne's prewar population of 782,000 shrank to 40,000 at the time of the city's fall, but has now risen to 520,000. The housing problem is prodigious. It is aggravated by lack of labour and all kinds of building materials—except salvaged bricks.

The war left 12,000,000 tons of rubble in Cologne, plus the jagged walls which jut from the wreckage. At first, the debris was merely shovelled out of the streets to permit resumption of traffic.

Rain and sun have "melted down" this mass into a putty-like substance laced with stone, steel and wood. It has become almost immovable.

Under a voluntary rubble clearance programme, every man between 18 and 60 and every woman between 18 and 45 is asked to contribute a nine-hour work day every four months.

Ninety-two per cent of the able-bodied residents of Cologne do their share of this work. But unless the job can be speeded, children of eight will be summoned to the task.

Singapore's

Inter-Racial Country Club

A first class inter-racial country club, providing facilities for swimming, dancing and playing golf and tennis, will be open to all communities in Singapore when the Island Club completes its \$300,000 scheme for a new two- or three-storey clubhouse and swimming pool, says the Straits Times.

Besides having a good dance floor, the new building will include card rooms and all modern amenities.

The Island Club has previously always been in intention a social club. Although in the past, the golf course has been its main feature, it has not been forgotten that provision should be made for such matters as tennis courts and other recreations, as well as the swimming pool.

During the occupation the clubhouse fell into disrepair and some of the main timbers of the roof were eaten through and collapsed. Parts of the main supporting beams of the side walls were also rendered completely useless by white ants and dry rot.

It was therefore decided to pull down the old building which had never been intended for use as a permanent clubhouse.

Control Of Radio Reporters

A meeting is to be held in the near future between the National Trust for Scotland and representatives of various industrial and cultural bodies to discuss the best means of developing the potentialities of the 10,000 acre Balmacara Estate and Balmacara House in Western Ross-shire, which were bequeathed to the Trust by the late Lady Hamilton.

The Trustees have considered the development of the village of Kyle on the estate as a key point in the Western Highlands, as a railway for access to the Skye and Hebridean shipping services, and as a fishing port with great possibilities. It would also make a most suitable centre for small engineering factories and for the processing of fish and farm produce.

There is talk about the best possible use for Balmacara House. A chorus of house-seekers will probably provide an answer to that question.

Record Film First Night Crowd

A crowd of 30,000, including stars of stage and screen, representatives of the United Nations and other public figures, turned out in New York for the opening of the film, "Razors Edge."

It is the screen adaptation of Somerset Maugham's novel and stars Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney.

The meter will take 100 different opinions at one time, and will show the result on a dial that reads from 0 to 100 percent.

SHOWING TO-DAY

KINGS

At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

M-G-M's MIGHTIEST TECHNICOLOR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE SINCE "NORTHWEST PASSAGE" The true, thrilling tale of "Billy the Kid" of all about and stampedes love and revenge!

ROBERT TAYLOR DILLY DILLY BRIAN DORLEVY

Glorious TECHNICOLOR

ADDED! SPECIAL BRITISH PARAMOUNT NEWS

COMING SOON: MARGARET LOCKWOOD Anna CRAWFORD • Jan HUNTER • Barry K. BARNS in VERA CASPARY'S

"BEDELIA"

A JOHN CORFIELD Production — Released by EAGLE-LION

TO-DAY & TOMORROW TOWN BOOKING OFFICE W. HAKING & CO., ALEXANDRA BLDG., GR. FL. BETWEEN 11.00 A.M. AND 6.00 P.M. DAILY

Nothing could be finer than this show called CAROLINA BLUES

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS "Carolina Blues" — Starring KAY KYSER • MILLER • MOORE WITH BETTY BOOP • BRENDA DEAN • RAY ELLIOTT'S BAND SERVED BY JOSEPH HOFFMAN AND ALICE COOPER PRODUCED BY SAMUEL SCHOENWALD DIRECTED BY ERIC JASON

NEXT CHANGE

JOE E. BROWN IN "THE DARING YOUNG MAN"

With Marjorie Chapman, William Wilcox, Roger Clark, Orlon, Eddie Dowdall and Constance Collier Directed by Frank R. Strayer Produced by Robert L. Parker COLUMBIA PICTURES CORPORATION

ORIENTAL

SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.15—9.15 P.M. AN EXCITING PICTURE FROM A FAMOUS NOVEL!

With Superb Artising and Daring!

Stewart GRANGER Jean Kent Dave CRAWFORD Doreen PRICE

GARAVAN

Commencing To-morrow: "STANDING ROOM ONLY"

CATHAY

SHOWING TO-DAY At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVE SONGS . . . ROMANCE THAT THRILLS . . . SPECTACLE THAT ENCHANTS . . . IN M-G-M'S MIGHTIEST TRIUMPH!

"CHOCOLATE SOLDIER"

Starring: NELSON EDDY • RISE STEVENS M-G-M's Picture

Marbles Loses Its G.O.M.

Sam Spooner, who five times won the English marbles championship, is dead, according to the News Chronicle.

He first won it 50 years ago and was well on in his eighties—some people say he was on the verge of ninety—but he retained his interest in "knuckle down" to the last.

Although other champions came and went at Tinsley Green, near Crawley, where the championship has been staged every Good Friday for over 300 years, Sam always appeared at the contests.

With his luxuriant white whiskers and old felt hat, he would offer his expert comments and, despite his age, would kneel and take a cunning hand at the game himself.

Sam took part in the games at Tinsley Green last Good Friday.

COMING!

In Technicolor "DEATH RODES" COLUMBIA PICTURES WITH RANDOLPH SCOTT • GLENN FORD CLAUDE TREVOR • EVELYN KEYES • EDGAR BUCHANAN

POSITIONS VACANT

APPLICATIONS are invited from certified or qualified navigating or diesel engineers, radio operators, and Coast Staff Officers on the ships of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service. Employment is also offered to men experienced in navigating and radio. Applicants are interviewed at the Office of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, Marina House, Queen's Road, Central.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"If I had a couple of bucks I could date Marge tonight. Dad—her father, by the way, is an automobile dealer!"

COPY 1944 BY REA SERVICE, INC. T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

Wide Raids In India

SEQUEL TO LOSS OF DEFENCE PLAN

New Delhi, Jan. 15. Raids on Communist headquarters and private houses were conducted widely over India yesterday.

The raids were evidently an effort to recover interior defence plans, parts of which had been published in Communist papers.

The Government of India Press Information Section declared that the raids were not ordered by the Central Government, but were carried out apparently with the co-operation of provincial governments.

In the Delhi raids, the New Delhi police said they seized a number of pamphlets called "Operation Army."

F. H. Bridgeman, Superintendent of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Delhi police, said the pamphlet had been published in Bengal and when found in the raids, it was seized. He declined to say whether that was the only document sought by the police.—Associated Press.

SUPPRESSING Dacoits

Rangoon, Jan. 15. U Mya, acting Minister for Home and Social Affairs, said to-day that Indian regiments have been summoned to help suppress disturbances started by Dacoit gangs with "robbery, looting and terrorisation" in Yunnan and Pyinma districts.

He said that units of the Black Cat Division (the veteran 17th Indian Division) "have played their part."

He described the Dacoits as having "Communist tendencies" and added that "precautionary measures are being taken and we are certain of controlling the situation".—Associated Press.

Foreign Service Pay Revised

London, Jan. 14. The official London Gazette to-day published a new pay scale and code of conduct for members of Britain's foreign service.

The pay scale ranges from £3,500 for a permanent Under-Secretary of State and heads of major missions to £275 for starting Third Secretaries.

The code warned career diplomats that marriage to aliens might diminish their utility and might even result in "them being no post in the foreign service to which they can properly be assigned."

The code also bars members of the Foreign Service from running for Parliament and states that as a rule, women members will be required to resign upon marriage.

Should a member of the Foreign Service become involved in a divorce suit, the Secretary of State may under certain circumstances call on him to resign.—United Press.

BURMA LEADERS' STATEMENT

London, Jan. 14. The Burmese political leaders, when they meet the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, and Cabinet Ministers for the first of their self-government talks, will submit a ten-page memorandum which is in effect a statement of Burma's political aims and demands.—Reuter.

Hamburg Shipyard Strike Ends

Hamburg, Jan. 14. The strike of 300 German shipyard workers in the Deutsche Werft yard in Hamburg ended this morning when the men returned to work after repairing two British ships.

The men stopped work on Friday after complaining that they were unable to work because of the freezing conditions.—Reuter.

Review Of Rape Sentence

Washington, Jan. 15. The War Department has set January 24 to review the court martial conviction of Private Leo Christensen on a rape charge in Japan. He was sentenced to death there.—Associated Press.

GREEK GUERRILLAS STILL ACTIVE

Athens, Jan. 14. Guerrillas tore up the railway track between Salonic and Drama, northeastern Greece, to-day and blew up a bridge about 14 miles north of Salonic, it was reported here to-night.

It was the fourth railway wrecking operation in Greece this week. Traffic between Macedonia and Thrace was interrupted.

Seven guerrillas were reported killed and 12 wounded in an engagement with Greek regular forces in the Grevena area of western Macedonia.—Reuter.

DUTCH SEARCHED BRITISH SHIP, GAVE NO REASON

Batavia, Jan. 15. The Captain of the British merchantman, Empire May Rover, Mr. Gilbert Kent of Chingford, London, said in Batavia yesterday that the Netherlands Navy "without explanation" intercepted his vessel on January 8, placed armed guards aboard and forced the ship to leave the Nationalist held port of Cheribon under the escort of a Dutch corvette.

CHOU EN-LAI CRITICISES MARSHALL

Nanking, Jan. 15. Yenan Radio to-day said Gen Chou En-lai, No. 2 man of the Chinese Communists, as sharply criticising Gen George C. Marshall's farewell statement blaming reactionaries in both the Government and Communist camps for failure to achieve condition and peace.

The Yenan broadcast said Gen Chou expressed regret that Gen Marshall, when criticising the Kuomintang reactionaries, failed to mention that "Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is the highest leader of this reactionary group."

Gen Chou accused Gen Marshall of "hasty thinking" if he believed any coalition government was possible under the continued leadership of Generalissimo Chiang, even with the assistance of Party Liberals and minority representatives.—Associated Press.

Search For Missing Explorer

London, Jan. 15. Clinging to the belief that Colonel P. H. Fawcett, the British explorer, is still alive after 21 years of absence, an expedition headed by C. R. Spriggs will soon travel to Brazil to search the jungles for him.

Primarily, the expedition will be one to seek gold and diamonds, but Spriggs, who says he may be away as long as 10 years, holds out the hope that he may either find Fawcett or learn the facts about his mysterious disappearance.

The adventurer's hope has been enhanced by the recent statement of Mrs. Fawcett, wife of the lost explorer, that she still believes her husband had been found.

The theory that Fawcett has been held prisoner by some Amazon tribe has been advanced by Mrs. E. Isaacs, Fawcett's sister.

Mrs. Fawcett, however, holds that the explorer "never intended to come back when he set out in 1925 to explore the Green Hell jungles of the Matto Grosso." She says he told her that if he was captured by wild tribesmen he would stay with them and "bring them to understand the white man's way of living." Later, she said, he intended to send for her to come and "look after the women and children of the tribes."

"I am getting old now, but if that message came I would still go," she said.—Associated Press.

Suicide Of Hitler Fanatic

London, Jan. 14. The man for whom the Portuguese police have been searching since he escaped from a detention camp in November, 1945, Dr. Herbert Wissmann, the last German press attache in Lisbon, committed suicide by poison when the police went to arrest him to-day.

As he died he uttered the cry, "Hell Hitler."

Police agents found Wissmann hiding in his own house in Lisbon to-day. When they tried to arrest him he swallowed a phial of poison.

Hiding in the same house the police also found Adolf Nassenstein, who had been classed by the Allied authorities as "a dangerous Gestapo agent."

Nassenstein attempted to shoot himself but his gun misfired and he is now under arrest. Both Wissmann—who was known to be active as a Nazi agent during the war—and Nassenstein were on the Allied "dangerous Germans" list.

They were part of a group of wanted Germans who were to have been repatriated by air to Germany soon after the war ended but failed to present themselves at the airport. Other Germans who evaded the police at the same time are still at large.—Reuter.

LAWSUITS AGAIN

Frankfurt, Jan. 14. Permission for the resumption of private lawsuits in German courts has been granted by the Legal Department of the U.S. Military Government.

Since the beginning of the occupation private actions were dealt with by State Prosecutors only if such course was in public interest.—Reuter.

"I have still been given no reason for the Dutch action," said Captain Kent on arrival in Batavia. "We shall demand the fullest possible damages."

Captain Kent said the vessel was on its way to Perth, Australia, carrying 35 motor cars from Singapore, when it became apparent that the vessel would not be able to complete the voyage because of engine trouble.

The Chinese charterer decided to sell the cargo in Cheribon after arrival there.

The corvette intercepted the Empire May Rover after 24 motor cars had been unloaded, said Captain Kent. An officer and six ratings were placed aboard and the vessel was ordered to proceed to Dutch Semarang under escort.

At Semarang, Captain Kent continued, the vessel was searched. Nothing was found. "It was then given written orders to proceed to Batavia without touching any Nationalists or, although I wanted to return to Cheribon to finish unloading," he added.

Captain Kent conferred at length with the British Consul-General, Mr. Gilbert MacKersie, who on Saturday made a formal protest to the Netherlands East Indies government over the treatment of the Empire May Rover.

The Netherlands Navy announced later that the search had been made for illegal arms. Captain Kent said he had not been informed of this.—Associated Press.

China, Another Supporter

Lake Success, Jan. 14. China and Britain were reported to have decided to support the United States demand that atomic control energy be given precedence over world disarmament. If the battle between the United States and Russia comes to a showdown in the Security Council to-morrow, the U.S. delegation itself was the source of the report.

Warren R. Austin, U.S. Chief delegate to the United Nations, communicated with General George Marshall in Honolulu and received an assurance that there will be no change in the State Department policy, and the United States will maintain its demand that the Big Five abolish the veto power in the punishment of violators of atomic control.—United Press.

SAUDI ARABIA CONCESSIONS

Washington, Jan. 14. The State Department spokesman to-day withdrew his statement made on January 9 that the United States Government had rejected the French protest against acceptance of the new oil concessions in Saudi Arabia by two American companies.

The spokesman declared to-day: "That is not the case at all. We are giving the matter consideration and will reply in due time. Our position is not settled yet."

He added that his earlier statement was the result of his being "misinformed."

The State Department said on January 9 that Mr. William Clayton, Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, had informed M. Henri Bonnet, French Ambassador in Washington, that since the validity of the 1928 agreement, on which the French protest was based, was being contested in London courts by private oil companies the United States would maintain a "hands-off" policy.

Mr. Clayton, he added, said that the agreement was entered into by private companies of Britain, the United States and France and consequently was not one for discussion on a governmental level.

On the previous day—January 8—M. Bonnet had discussed with Mr. Clayton the French view that United States companies had violated the "Red Line agreement" of 1928 by not giving French concerns the opportunity of participation in new oil concessions.

Nassenstein attempted to shoot himself but his gun misfired and he is now under arrest. Both Wissmann—who was known to be active as a Nazi agent during the war—and Nassenstein were on the Allied "dangerous Germans" list.

They were part of a group of wanted Germans who were to have been repatriated by air to Germany soon after the war ended but failed to present themselves at the airport. Other Germans who evaded the police at the same time are still at large.—Reuter.

OFF TO MOSCOW

Paris, Jan. 14. M. Alexander Gobomov, Soviet Ambassador to France, left Paris suddenly for Moscow to-day.

His departure has given rise to considerable speculation in political circles here.—Reuter.

The holding of seats for priority passengers on certain air routes operated by British European Airways Corporation, will cease from January 1, the British Ministry of Civil Aviation announced to-night.

The routes concerned are between Britain and the following cities: Paris, Copenhagen, Brussels, Oslo, Lisbon, Madrid, Prague, Stockholm and Amsterdam.—Reuter.

The victims included 18 officers and men of the Mexican Army.

Witnesses said the plane had just taken off when an engine failed.

The pilot brought the plane back to the landing strip, but was unable to land it safely.—United Press.

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